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Representing the 24th District:
New Britain, Newington

A Legislative Update on Our Work to Lower Property Taxes

State Senator Don DeFronzo, state Representative Tim O'Brien and the rest of the New Britain delegation support a new plan to bring property tax relief to New Britain residents.

The legislature's Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee recently approved a tax cut package that includes:

- State income tax deductions for Long Term Care and CHET Savings Accounts for Connecticut taxpayers
- Significant increases to the automobile and property tax credit
- Making the tax credits fully refundable to taxpayers.
- The creation of a state, earned-income-tax credit

Under these proposed changes, New Britain's senior citizens, low-income and middle income earners—virtually all taxpayers—would benefit from these significant changes to our tax policies.

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State Representative Tim O'Brien

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A Plan That Provides Real Property Tax Relief to New Britain's Residents

SENIOR HOMEOWNERS

This increase in the automobile and property tax credit on the income tax would benefit seniors and others who are struggling with the high cost of local property taxes—particularly in our cities. For example, under current law, a senior couple who lives on a fixed income of less than \$24,000 does not receive any relief from the property taxes they pay on their \$150,000 New Britain home. Under the proposal, they would receive a \$500 refund on property taxes they have paid.

LOW-INCOME WAGE EARNERS

If passed into law, low-income earners who currently receive the federal earned income tax credit will also receive a credit on their state income tax equal to 10% of their federal credit. If the credit exceeds the taxpayer's liability, the taxpayer would receive a refund from the state. For example, a family of three with 1 child who earns \$16,400 a year would receive a maximum credit of \$266.

MIDDLE-INCOME TAXPAYERS

The proposal would raise the property tax credit from the current \$350 to \$500 and taxpayers would receive a refund if their credit exceeds their liability. The change also significantly increases the number of people who qualify for the property tax credit by raising the income thresholds for the phase-out. Over 168,000 taxpayers would be helped by this initiative. For example, currently, a married couple earning up to \$130,500 each year would receive a \$280 property tax credit. Under the new legislation, the same couple would receive a \$500 property tax credit—a 78.5% increase.